

The True Northemer.

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WHOLE NO. 1105.

IF I SHOULD DIE TO-NIGHT.

If I should die to-night,
My friends would look upon my quiet face,
Before they laid it in its resting-place,
And deem that death had left it almost fair;
And laying snow-white flowers against my hair
Would smother it down with tender tears,
And fold my hands with lingering care—
Poor hands, so empty and so cold to-night!

If I should die to-night,
My friends would call to mind, with loving thought,
Some kindly deed the icy hand had wrought,
Some gentle word the frozen lips had said;
Some errand on which the willing feet had sped—
The memory of my selfishness and pride,
My hasty words would all be put aside,
And so I should be loved and mourned to-night.

If I should die to-night,
Even hearts estranged would turn once more to me,
Recalling other days remorsefully,
The eyes that chill me with averted glance,
Would look upon me as of yore, perchance,
And soften in the old familiar way,
For who would war with dumb, unconscious clay?
So I might rest, forgiven of all to-night.

Oh, friends, I pray to-night,
Keep not your kisses for my dead, cold brow,
The way is lonely; let me feel them now.
Think gently of me; I am travel-worn,
My faltering feet are pained with many a thorn.
Forgive! oh, hearts estranged, forgive, I plead!
When dreamless rest is mine I shall not need
The tenderness for which I long to-night.

—Little's Living Age.

OLD HICKORY.

Reminiscences of Persons and Events
During the Two Terms of Gen. Jackson's
Presidency.

No man of this country or of any other
ever possessed in a greater degree the
confidence of the people, or excelled in
personal popularity with the masses,
than Andrew Jackson, of Tennessee.
Politicians were not always satisfied with
him, not even those who had largely par-
ticipated in the success of the party that
first elected him to the Presidential office;
but the people were ever with him, and
believed in his honest, devoted patri-
otism, stood by him in every act in his
administration of public affairs, when
political leaders of the party were alarmed
if not disaffected at times by the bold,
aggressive movements of the brave and
intrepid soldier. It is related of a Penn-
sylvania farmer, who having sold, in
Philadelphia, a wagon load of products
from his farm some twenty miles back in
the country, was offered in payment the
notes of the United States bank, then at
a premium of one per cent. over the
State bank circulation, when to the sur-
prise of the purchaser he declined to
take them in payment, simply saying that
Gen. Jackson had said the bank was bad
and corrupt, and therefore he did not
care to have anything to do with it.

A true and staunch friend, he never
was known to abandon any one in whom
he had placed confidence, or for whom
he had any friendly feeling, although the
whole world might go against his views
and opinions. He was ever the defend-
er of the weak against the strong, and
no man ever surpassed the old hero in
his chivalric appreciation of woman, or
in his disposition to protect and defend
her at all times against any species of
aggression or persecution. This noble
disposition had been increased in him
in consequence of the base and dastardly
attack that was made on his domestic
life during the canvass for his first Pres-
idential term, and even upon the be-
loved partner of his joys and sorrows,
whose life, it is believed, was shortened
by such attacks and persecutions.

This trait in his character for gal-
lant defense of woman was brought
fully into action on the memor-
able embroilment in Wash-
ington society in 1831, in which the mem-
bers of his Cabinet and their families
were principally and immediately inter-
ested. Reference is here made to the
unpleasant condition of affairs immedi-
ately preceding the dissolution of the
Cabinet in that year. The rupture that
had taken place between Gen. Jackson
and Mr. Calhoun, to which more particu-
lar allusion will be made further on, was
soon followed by an event naturally to
follow as a consequence—that of break-
ing up the President's Cabinet. Sev-
eral members classed as the political
friends of Mr. Calhoun could not be ex-
pected to remain as ministers to Gen.
Jackson while adhering to that gentle-
man. This dissolution of the Cabinet,
however, was hastened and more im-
mediately brought about by the embroi-
lement in high society referred to above.
The main difficulty and source of these
troubles in society, as the General be-
lieved, arose from a wanton and unpro-
voked persecution on the part of the Cal-
hounites, of the family of his friend and
favored minister, Gen. Eaton, then Sec-
retary of War, aimed as an indirect at-
tack on himself, and similar in effect to
the dastardly war made on his own do-
mestic peace during his first candidacy
for the Presidential office.

Mr. Samuel D. Ingham, the Secretary
of the Treasury, visited the President at
the suggestion of Col. R. M. Johnson,
of Kentucky, the reputed slayer of Tecu-
mseh, to see if some harmonious com-
promise could not be made whereby he
and others could remain in position—
for although friends and admirers of Mr.
Calhoun, and therefore necessarily and
to some extent disaffected toward Gen.
Jackson, yet they seemed desirous, to
use a modern phrase—to stick; but the
President was far from being conciliated,
and as Mr. Ingham reported back to Col.
Johnson, he had become very violent,
and, as he remarked under considerable
excitement, that he would never again
undertake such a mission, for the Presi-
dent was not only violent, but seemed to
roar at him like a maddened lion. Col.
Johnson said he would go to him and
see if the lion would roar at him; pos-
sibly the old hero had roared enough for
that occasion, for he received the Col-
onel, for whom he had a high regard,
with that impressive dignity that was
never surpassed by any official in receiv-
ing those who approached him, especial-
ly under such extraordinary circum-
stances as then existed. Col. Johnson

warmly deprecated the course affairs
were taking—that they would lead to a
breaking up of his Cabinet, and feared
that the people of the country would be-
come alarmed and disaffected at so un-
usual an event. The President, in his
determined manner, assured him that he
need not entertain any apprehensions
with regard to the reception of such an
occurrence by the people, who would,
in their accustomed common-sense way
of looking at causes and effects, be but
little concerned by the changes which
might take place in his Cabinet.

The result was foreseen by Col. John-
son—the Cabinet was dissolved, and as
foreseen by the President the people
seemed to care but little about it. Mr.
Van Buren, Secretary of State, and Gen.
Eaton, Secretary of War, being the
special, personal, and political friends
of Gen. Jackson, having tendered their
resignations, the balance of his Cabinet
were, of course, necessitated to follow
their example, thus terminating a coun-
cil to the President in which Mr. Cal-
houn had been largely represented, and
which, consequently, could no longer be
palatable to the President. Gen. Eaton
and his family went to Florida, where
he had been appointed Governor, and
subsequently as Minister to Spain. Mr.
Van Buren went as Minister to Eng-
land, and the rest of that famous Cab-
inet retired from public to private life,
from whence they never afterward
emerged.

In the election for President which
took place in 1832, the successful ticket
before the people bore the name of the
old hero of New Orleans for President,
with that of Mr. Van Buren for Vice-Pre-
sident, and their inauguration took place
amid great party rejoicings on the 4th of
March, 1833, being the second term of
Gen. Jackson.

A great change had taken place in the
political as well as personal relations of
the distinguished leaders who had fig-
ured so prominently in the exciting
movements of the previous four years.
Mr. Clay had again been beaten, and the
political feud between him and the Presi-
dent had increased in bitterness, assum-
ing constantly thereafter personal dis-
like and antipathy. Mr. Van Buren had
succeeded Mr. Calhoun to the Vice-presi-
dency, and was now to preside over the
Senate, in which the latter was to be sim-
ply a Senator; nor was this all of the dis-
comfiture of the ambitious South Caroli-
nian. The strong ties of personal and
political friendship that had so long ex-
isted between him and Gen. Jackson had
been suddenly and violently severed—
never to be restored again. It had been
discovered to Gen. Jackson through the
revelations of Wm. H. Crawford, of
Georgia, who had been a member of Mr.
Monroe's Cabinet during the time that
Gen. Jackson had control of military af-
fairs in Florida, that instead of Mr. Cal-
houn (also of Mr. Monroe's Cabinet)
having defended him against serious
charges brought up in Cabinet for trans-
gressing his powers and authority in
Florida, he was for strict investigation,
and for such punishment as the extraor-
dinary circumstances demanded; and
that it was Mr. John Quincy Adams who
had on that critical occasion espoused
his cause and defended him against any
extreme proceedings on the part of the
Government.

This discovery was a sad blow and a
great surprise to Gen. Jackson, for he
had been for a number of years firmly
under the impression that it was to Mr.
Calhoun that he was indebted for such
friendly aid and defense at so critical a
period, and the discovery, to a man of
his temperament, having an extreme
sensitiveness about everything that con-
cerned his military fame, naturally awak-
ened no ordinary indignation and resent-
ment. A correspondence ensued be-
tween him and Mr. Calhoun, which had
no effect whatever in healing the breach
in their friendship; but, on the contrary,
it only widened it, and the General, get-
ting mad, abruptly closed the corre-
spondence with the deprecatory address
of Cesar to Brutus, "Et tu Brute!"

This unfortunate severance of the old
ties of personal and political friendship
between the President and Mr. Calhoun
was in every way disastrous and fatal
to the latter. Mr. Van Buren succeeded
to the place in the affections of the
President that had but so lately been oc-
cupied by Mr. Calhoun, and in conse-
quence Mr. Van Buren was placed on
the ticket in 1832 for the office of Vice
President, with the clearly defined will
and pleasure of the old hero that he
should succeed him in the Presidency.
This assertion of the influence and power
of Gen. Jackson, based on his unequalled
popularity with the people to nominate
his successor, and to have him chosen
by the people, will be fully sustained by
the history of the times—and that not
only did this great influence and the
power of his name extend to his imme-
diate successor, but will apply also to
the nomination and election of Mr.
Polk in 1844.

These sudden and overwhelming re-
verses in Mr. Calhoun's political and
personal fortunes made him well nigh a
desperate man. Seeing that he was no
longer in the line of "safe precedents,"
and that the aspiring son of New York
had stepped in and jostled him from his
ambitious path, where but a short while
before he seemed so secure for the high
prize in view, and that there remained
no possible hope for him to regain his
former happy footing, he in an evil hour
resorted to his celebrated nullification
doctrine.

There has scarcely been in the coun-
try greater excitement than that which
arose from the discussions in the Senate
on the tariff question during the session
of 1832-33. South Carolina, under the
lead of her heretofore popular and dis-
tinguished son, Mr. Calhoun, had as-
sumed the fearful attitude of angry and

almost belligerent opposition to the ex-
ecution of the revenue laws, and at no
time probably had there been graver ap-
prehensions for the future of the coun-
try than existed then. It was but the
dark, gloomy omen and forerunner of
what was to follow afterward in 1861, and
the dread and dismay which then op-
pressed the hearts of all patriots simply
foreshadowed the horrors that came upon
the land from 1861 to 1865.

Gen. Jackson issued his famous pro-
clamation warning the people of South
Carolina against any disaffection to
the Government, or any at-
tempt to resist the due execution of
laws made by the high authority of Con-
gress, and followed this great address
by sending troops to Charleston under
the command of Gen. Scott to guaran-
tee and enforce, if need was, the execu-
tion of the revenue laws.

During this eminently critical period
threatening the national peace, Mr. Cal-
houn arose in his place in the Senate
and made the following alarming declara-
tion that South Carolina was in "battle
array," ready to resist the execution of
the iniquitous revenue laws for the col-
lection of revenue under an unjust and
unconstitutional tariff. Such was the
dread and fearful impression made on
the minds of Senators and the crowded
audience that for a while the feeling was
intensely oppressive and painful, for
it was known that Gen. Jackson was in-
tensely watching every movement on the
part of the political leaders of South
Carolina, and that had there been an
overt act in the way of resistance, going
so far as to the shedding of blood after
such a speech, there was no knowing
what dire results would have happened
from the stern determination of the
great and patriotic chief then at the
head of public affairs, who it was well
known would never compromise in any
way for the violation of the laws of his
country. It was at this momentous
juncture, when Mr. Calhoun had so
startled and alarmed Senators and
audience, that Mr. Clayton, of Delaware,
hastily penciled a note to Mr. Clay, and
sent it by a page of the Senate, in these
exciting words: "For God's sake save
him, or he is lost."

Mr. Clayton well knew the inflexible
and indomitable will and temper of An-
drew Jackson, and that had there been
blood shed in resisting the revenue
laws after this daringly bold and almost
treasonable speech, that the fate of the
South Carolina Senator was already de-
termined on, and that with such a man
as Jackson in the Presidential chair there
would be no compromise or vacillation
in the discharge of his high and impera-
tive duties.

Mr. Clay did save him and his State
from a very fearful predicament, and in
his compromise measures at that time
allayed and fully quieted the storm that
seemed ready to burst over the Govern-
ment and the country.

Gen. Jackson's firmness of character,
his determination to submit to no wrong
to the Government at home or abroad,
made him feared and respected every-
where. Witness the action of France
in settling up long delay arrears of debt
to the United States when the old soldier
and statesman had it intimated to the
French Government through our minister
at Versailles that the time had come
for a settlement, and that no further de-
lay could be tolerated with proper re-
gard to our national honor.

With the people of the District of
Columbia, where he lived as President
for eight years, he was greatly respected
and beloved. They soon learned to
know his inflexible justice and his fixed
rule of action with regard to all transac-
tions between the officers and employes
of the Government, and the people of
the District. He would not allow any
long continued indebtedness on the part
of officials who were receiving their
monthly pay from the Government, and
who on account of being in the receipt
of such Government pay had received
credit for any kind of supplies or ac-
commodations. Knowing this, he was
very frequently appealed to by creditors
against their delinquent customers, and
they never failed to secure a liquidation
of the indebtedness, or so secured as
to guarantee a speedy payment. One
of these applications to the General,
and which created much amusement
at the time, was that of a lady who kept a boarding-house,
and with whom a young man from Ten-
nessee, a clerk in one of the depart-
ments, and of a family for whom the
President had a warm regard and friend-
ship, had boarded for several months
without paying his board bill, and with
little apparent likelihood that he intend-
ed paying it very soon, and for which she
was greatly in want. The General list-
ened to her complaint very patiently,
and with his usual kindness and courtesy
to the fair sex, and when she had told
him her story he advised her to get the
gentleman's note for what he owed her.
At this the poor lady's heart sank, and
she said, "General, what good will his
note do me? He will care as little about
paying a note as the open account I have
handed him so frequently"—but her
heart grew something lighter when the
President told her to get the note and
bring it to him—for she saw that there
might be something in it. She went
home and very readily got the required
note, as the gentleman said he was very
willing to give it, and would include the
interest, as she should not lose the in-
terest as long as he owed her hereafter.
Smiling at the liberality of her debtor,
she returned to the President and sub-
mitted to him the document, wondering
what would be the next move toward
getting her money. To her extreme
surprise the President took up a pen
from his office table and wrote on the
back of the note his own great name—
Andrew Jackson. Almost overcome by

grateful surprise she arose to take her
leave, when the President said to her:
"Madam, you will please take the note
to the cashier of the Bank of the Metrop-
olis with my request that he will dis-
count it at once, and that he will please
to give timely notice of maturity to the
maker of the note." Timely notice was
given, and it is needless to add that the
note was paid promptly when it became
due, without taking advantage even of
the usual three days' grace.

Great injustice has been done to the
character and fame of Gen. Jackson in
the estimate made of him, mostly by
his political opponents, especially in
charging him with tyranny in the exer-
cise of an almost ferocious will in his
great public career. Nothing was ever
more unfounded.

Col. Thomas Benton, who of all men
of their times knew him best from many
years' acquaintance, and who, from hav-
ing been in deadly feud with him at an
early period of their lives in Tennessee,
became, after he attained to the Presi-
dential office, his warmest and most de-
voted friend, writes in the following
interesting manner of him in his "Thirty
Years View," published after Gen. Jack-
son's death:

"His temper was placable, as well as ir-
ascible, and his reconciliations were cordial
and sincere. Of that my own case was a signal
instance. After a deadly feud, I became his con-
fidential adviser, was offered the highest marks
of his favor, and received from his dying bed a
message of friendship, dictated when life was
departing, and when he would have to pause
for breath. There was a deep vein of piety in
him, manifested showing itself in his rever-
ence for divine worship, respect for ministers
of the gospel, their hospitable reception in his
house, and constant encouragement of all the
pious tendencies of Mrs. Jackson. And when
they both afterward became members of a
church it was the natural and regular result
of their early and cherished feelings. He was
gentle in his house, and alive to the tenderest
emotions; and of this I can give an instance
greatly in contrast with his supposed charac-
ter, and worth more than a long discourse in
showing what that character really was. I ar-
rived at his house one wet, chilly evening in
February, and came upon him in the twilight,
sitting alone before the fire, a child and a lamb
between his knees. He started a little, called
a servant to remove the two innocents to an-
other room, and explained to me how it was.
The child had cried because the lamb was
in the cold, and begged him to bring it in,
which he had done to please the child. His
adopted son, then not two years old. The
ferocious man does not do that! and though
Gen. Jackson had his passions and his violence,
they were for men and his enemies who
stood up against him, and not for women and
children, or the weak and the helpless, for all
of whom his feelings were those of protection
and support."

The great old patriot is gone from
earth to heaven, and there never can
scarcely be a name connected with
the history of this country that will be
more prized or held in higher estima-
tion than that of Andrew Jackson.

True man—staunch friend, and true
patriot—he loved his country and its in-
stitutions, and was, all through a long
and eventful life, devoted to its honor
and best interests. He loved the peo-
ple, and always felt that they would
stand by him in all his political acts, be-
cause they believed that he would ever
serve them truly and faithfully.

In conclusion, it may be safely said
that there never existed a public charac-
ter who through life acted more thor-
oughly on the principle inculcated in the
solemn and impressive adjuration of the
great churchman and statesman,
Cardinal Wolsey, to his friend and fol-
lower, Cromwell, "Be just and fear
not. Let all the ends thou aim'st at be
thy country's, thy God's and truth's."—
The Republic.

A New Political Organization.

A political campaign organization
called "The National Reform League,"
with headquarters in New York city, has
been formed by gentlemen prominent in
law and literature, but not much known
in politics. Its inception dates from
early April, and it already numbers
about 100 members, distributed through-
out thirty different States. The address of
the executive committee to the country
is dated New York, May 3, 1876, but it
was finally approved at a meeting which
was held in that city a few days ago.
There were present Henry Randall
Waite, editor of the *International Re-
view*, who has been specially active in
organizing the League; Samuel C. An-
derson, of New Jersey; Gen. Franz Sigel,
Kinahan Cornwallis, George Cary Eggle-
ston, and others. Resolutions were
adopted designed to further the organ-
ization of branch "national reform
leagues" throughout the country, and
an address of the executive committee
to the people of the United States. It
is signed by Henry Randall Waite, J. G.
Holland, Franz Sigel, George H. Put-
nam, R. Heber Newton, George Cary
Eggleston, and Kinahan Cornwallis, of
New York; James Freeman Clarke,
Henry T. Cheever, and Henry F. Bishop,
of Massachusetts; M. S. Dudley, of
Connecticut; Samuel C. Anderson, and
R. W. Weeks, of New Jersey; John Sill,
of Pennsylvania; James D. Browne, of
Virginia; R. Brinkerhoff and M. D.
Harter, of Ohio, and John W. Hoyt, of
Wisconsin. The address declares that
"the members of the National Reform
League will stand pledged to the use of
all legitimate means for securing the
nomination and election to the Chief
Magistracy of the nation, and to all
minor offices, national, State and local,
of men who shall worthily represent the
people and the institutions of the Unit-
ed States."

LIEUT. EITHEL, of the Austrian army,
who sold official documents to the am-
bassador of a foreign Government, has
been tried as a spy and condemned to
dismissal from the service, loss of no-
bility, and ten years' imprisonment, with
one day's fasting every month.

GEN. BUTLER has issued his farewell
address to the Massachusetts militia.

DAVID C. BRODERICK'S DEATH.

A California Chief-Justice and a Senator
on the Dueling Ground.

(From the San Francisco Post.)
The prominent and peculiar part
played by David C. Broderick in Cali-
fornia politics, the hold he obtained on
the public heart, and the circumstances
preceding his unhappy end, unite to en-
hance the tragic character of his fate.
After struggling for years against odds
which would have overborne a man of
less energy and determination, he tri-
umphed over all the powerful foes ar-
rayed against him, winning the object of
his ambition, a seat in the United States
Senate. After the adjournment of Con-
gress he returned to this State and en-
tered upon the memorable campaign of
'59, leading the Douglas wing of the
Democracy. David S. Terry, Chief-
justice of the Supreme court, was a can-
didate for re-nomination, and in one of
his speeches he said in relation to the
rival wing of his party:

"They have no distinction; they are
entitled to none. They are the follow-
ers of one man, the personal chattels of
a single individual. They belong body
and soul and breeches to David C. Brod-
erick. They are yet ashamed to ac-
knowledge their master, and are, for-
sooth, Douglas Democrats."

To this passage, which is certainly
not more offensive than the average
oratory of which it is a class, Broderick
attached undue weight. Reading it at
the breakfast table of the International
Hotel in the morning, he became highly
incensed, and spoke in great anger and
bitterness of Terry, saying that he re-
gretted having assisted him when in the
hands of the vigilance committee, D.
W. Perley, formerly the law partner of
Terry, being at the table, returned the
blow upon his absent friend, and sent
Broderick a challenge, which the latter
declined on the ground of social and
political inequality between them, and
that Perley being a foreigner had not
the political rights to lose by fighting
that he (Broderick) had. In the course
of the correspondence the Senator also
announced his unalterable determina-
tion not to respond to any challenge un-
til after the election. Terry, who it was
understood was on the point of coming
to San Francisco to demand instant sat-
isfaction, was deterred by this intima-
tion from Broderick. He cherished the
remembrance of the insult, and resign-
ing his office, on election day took the
boat for San Francisco, stopping at
Stockton for his surgeon, Dr. Aylett,
and his dueling pistol. On the next
day he called Broderick to account.

Sensor Broderick and the Chief-justice
met on Davis' ranch, about two miles
southeast of Lake Merced. The weapons
were dueling pistols, distance ten paces.
The choice of position and weapons were
decided by the toss of a half dollar, be-
ing won by the seconds of Terry. The
latter's weapons were, of course, chosen.
The principals took off their overcoats
and stepped to the positions assigned
them. Broderick, who wore a light wool
hat pulled down over his forehead, had
a presentiment of his fate, but was sus-
tained by his iron will. Terry stood
firm, with the air of a practiced duelist.
At the word the weapons were raised.
In his nervous hurry Broderick's was
discharged prematurely, the bullet
striking the ground in front of his an-
tagonist. Terry aimed deliberately and
fired, exclaiming: "The shot is not mor-
tal. I have struck two inches to the
right." Broderick, on receiving the
shot, turned suddenly to one side, braced
himself for a moment, and retaining his
pistol in a convulsive grasp, sank to the
earth. After lingering seventy-four
hours, the Senator expired on the morn-
ing of September 16.

Judge Terry was indicted for murder.
He procured a change of venue to Marin
county, and previous to the trial he took
rooms at San Rafael and kept open house
to all who chose to come, entertaining
them liberally, and thus making friends
of as many as possible of the people
where he was to be tried. The hour
fixed for the beginning of the trial was
9 o'clock in the morning, an unusually
early hour for the opening of a court.
On the morning named, Alexander
Campbell, who had been employed to
conduct the prosecution, accompanied by
the witnesses for the prosecution, started
at 7 o'clock in the yacht Restless
for San Rafael, but they did not reach
their destination until noon. Meantime
the court opened punctually at 9, and
notwithstanding the absence of the Pro-
secuting-attorney and his witnesses, pro-
ceeded with the force of a trial, and
there being no witnesses, the Judge soon
directed the jury to render a verdict of
acquittal, which they did with great
alacrity. When Mr. Campbell arrived
with his witnesses, he found Judge Terry
and friends in high glee over the ac-
quittal. Judge Terry has since given
his attention to practicing law, and is a
leading member of the bar at Stockton,
his old home.

Slavery in Turkey.

Although the slavery of white women
is nominally abolished in Turkey, it still
exists by connivance and collusion. The
great mart whence white slaves were
formerly purchased, the regions of the
Caucasus, is now interfered with by the
advance of the Russians, and white
slaves can no more be brought thence in
flocks. The present system is said to be
as follows: The Turkish trader goes to
the region where parents sell their daugh-
ters and women sell themselves. He
takes to himself four wives, as a Ma-
hometan is allowed to do, and returns to
Constantinople with his wives. In this
guise—as wives—they pass unchallenged,
while as slaves they would be contra-
band. He disposes of the lot, and then
goes back, sometimes, it is said, as often

as four times a year, for fresh lots, to be
similarly disposed of. It does not re-
quire western civilization to teach how
wholesale laws may be evaded, and how
next to impossible it is, by the mere for-
mality of enacting a statute, to enforce a
reform with which a debauched public
opinion does not sympathize. A slave
traffic like that referred to shocks every
humane and virtuous instinct of a Chris-
tian community. Yet we should be
charitable, for it is not long since slav-
ery was protected by law in our own
country, and we still have the "twin
relig," polygamy, in Utah, condemned
by law, yet flourishing in spite of it.

A Touching Scene in a Kentucky Court-Room.

On Friday last we had quite a touch-
ing scene in our court-house. Old John
Garner, an old, gray-headed man, was
arraigned for the crime of grand larceny
—horse-stealing. He pleaded guilty,
and presented himself to the jury in a
brief and touching address. He said:

"GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY: I am an
old man, and my race is nearly run.
This is the first time in my life I have
ever been before a jury. I have never
even been a witness in a magistrate's
court. I was born in 1816, and have
been a hard-working and honest man all
my life until now. I am a stranger to
every man in this house, except his
honor who sits on that bench. He has
known me for nine years, and he will
tell you I have been an honest man and
a good citizen. This jury looks like a
set of honest and intelligent men, and I
wish you to deal with me the best you
can. I read in the paper that the
prison at Frankfort is an awful
place—that it is so crowded that
one can scarcely live there. From
the accounts of that place I suppose I
could not live there long. You see I am
old and feeble, and I ask you to do the
best you can for me. Gentlemen, if I
could have got work I could have sup-
ported my family and not been here.
But I want to tell you—I am a very poor
man and have to work to live. Well,
last year the times were very hard in-
deed, and I could not get work much of
my time. I am a mechanic, and I went
to Clarksville, Fairview and many other
places, but I could not get any work.
The times were very hard, as you all
know, and but few men had money to
pay for labor. I traveled around till
I spent all that I had but a bed and a
chair. I was tired and out of heart, and
my family suffering for food and cloth-
ing. I heard then that I could get work
in North Logan, and I sold my kit of
tools to get my family up there. I paid
\$75 for my tools in Louisville and I sold
them low. After paying for moving I
had \$15 left. I got a place for my family
for a little while, and started again
for work. I tried hard to find it but
could not. I went back to my family
broken down in spirit, thinking I would
have to starve or beg. Gentlemen, my
little boy, about six years old, got in my
lap, and put his little arms around my
neck and asked me if the good Lord
would let us starve. I love my family as
well as any man, and could not think of
their starving."

The prisoner became overwhelmed
with emotion, and, pausing for a few
moments, he pleaded for as light a ver-
dict as the jury could give him. The
occasion was exceedingly solemn. The
prisoner told his story without reserva-
tion. Age and care had whitened his
locks and furrowed his brow. He had
seen better days, but he was now a
broken reed. The jury, the attorneys,
the judge, and the spectators were
touched by the homely recital of the
suppliant prisoner. The jury gave him
two years in the penitentiary, and the
judge, jury and lawyers then signed a
petition to the Governor for his pardon.
—Elkton (Ky.) Witness.

The Prison Taint.

Among the instances that have recent-
ly come to light of barbarous hardships
imposed by British law upon innocent
parties is the case of a girl in Gloucestershire, aged but sixteen, who by some
local dogberry was committed to jail on
a charge of arson, the only proof against
her being that she had given the alarm
of fire in time to save the burning build-
ing; and that, without hesitation, she
told of having carelessly dropped a match
that might have caused the flames. In
jail she was locked up in solitary con-
finement in a damp, filthy cell, awaiting
trial, and as their lordships, the justices,
concluded to take a vacation, was held
there six months on the meanest prison
fare, until they were pleased to give her
a trial, when, of course, she was straight-
way acquitted. Then the poor child
was turned loose with the prison taint
upon her, to be refused employment be-
cause she was a jail-bird, and, unless
the fates be merciful, to sink to the
lowest depths. Her case, it appears, is
not an exceptional one. People sent to
jail without any real evidence against
them, and on mere suspicion, it appears,
at Newgate, and in the other prisons
generally, are treated precisely as con-
victs. There is no means of bringing
them to speedy trial; and there they are
kept for months, suffering most dis-
graceful and ignominious punishment,
because of the absurdities of the law, or
awaiting the pleasure of judges who
want a vacation.

Cash Value of an Optic.

The value of an eye in California
seems to range from \$299 to \$500. A
man in Santa Clara recovered \$299 from
a barbarian who carried his umbrella on
his shoulder and punched out his eye,
and a lecturer on chemistry in San Fran-
cisco, who destroyed the eye of an au-
ditor by an accidental explosion, has
been mulcted in the sum of \$500.